Indo-Pak Relations

133. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the achievements of Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan for friendly relations between India and Pakistan in political, diplomatic and trade fields have improved after the change in power in Pakistan recently;

(b) what are the details of talks held between the Prime Ministers of both the countries in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of actions taken by India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) to (c) P.M.'s discussions with Prime Minister Mrs. Benazir Bhutto during his recent visit to Pakistan have opened up possibilities for establishment of an improved and mutually beneficial India-Pakistan relationship, based on sovereign equality and non interference in each others' internal affairs. During the visit itself the following bilateral agreements were signed :

(1) Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations and facilities.

(2) Cultural Cooperation Agreement

(3) Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation on Income derived from International Air Transport.

It was further agreed to maintain a close dialogue between the two countries at various levels on a wide range of issues in order to accelerate the normalisation process.

Earnings of Railways

134. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total estimated amount of earnings of Railways through freight and parcel charges, during the current financial year, zone-wise;

(b) what are the corresponding figures of earnings of Railways through freight and parcel charges during 1986-87 and 1987-88, zone-wise; and

(c) what is the total volume of goods carried by railways in wagons during the current financial year and corresponding figures of the last two financial years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Estimates for parcel earnings are not separately fixed but are included in other coaching earnigns. Figures of other coaching earnings and Goods Earnings for years 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (estimates) are given in the statement attached as Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 6].

(c) Total volume of goods carried by railways during first ten months of the current financial year and corresponding period of last two years is given in the statement attached as Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 7].

Border Issue with China

135. SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint working group was set up during the recent visit of Prime Minister to China to study the border issue between the two countries;

(b) if so, what are the details of its set up and the modalities formulated to examine the border issue; and

(c) whether any deadline has been set to solve, the border problem between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) During the recent visit of the Prime Miniter to China, it was decided by India and China to set up a Joint Working Group on the boundary question.

(b) The Group will be headed on the Indian side by the Foreign Secretary, and on the Chinese side by the Vice Foreign Minister. It will address the question of an overall boundary settlement as well as ensure the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

(c) The boundary question is a complex one which will require detailed negotitations. A time-limit cannot arbitrarily be set for the completion of these negotitations.

Enhancing the Capacity of Air Services

136. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI BAIKUNTHNATH SAHU :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a major expansion plan to enhance the capacity of the Air services in the country;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposed plan; and

(c) what is the likely total cost of expenditure involved and what are the total number of air buses or aeroplanes required to implement the expansion plan?

THE MINSITER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In so far as Indian Airlines is concerned, it has already placed an order for 19 Airbus A320 aircraft at a project cost of Rs. 1238.37 crores for deliveries during 1989-90. Indian Airlines has also placed a letter of Intent for acquisition of 12 additional A 320 aircraft which it proposes to procure.

Air-India has also drawn up a detailed integrated plan upto 1995-96 which is under consideration of the Board of Air-India. The Sub-Committee of the Board of Air-India has evaluated the various aircrafts available (both medium and long range) which will meet the traffic growth upto mid-Nineties. The total number of aircraft, according to this study, which Air-India would need is placed at 12 and the total investment is estimated to be in the region of US dollars 1.5 billion.

Gap between Demand and Supply of Air Services

137. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines is in a mess due to delay in flight schedule;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have allowed capacity to raise 4% per year; while the demand is rising 12% per year;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not meeting the demand of the country; and

(d) what steps are being considered/taken by government to meet the demand during 1989; and also to ensure functional operations of flight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.